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interpolations—my only business is to relate what I saw in the course of this embassy, in every part of which I had the honour to attend Lord Macartney, who was appointed to be the representative of his Britannic Majesty at the Court of Pekin.

The disadvantages which oppress the trade of European countries with China are well known, and to remove them in behalf of our own, was an object well worthy the attentive wisdom of our government. It was not, however, a mere speculative project; as a sufficient intimation had been made to the Court of London, that an Ambassador from thence would be graciously received by the Emperor of China: ministers, therefore, acted with a strict political attention to the commercial interests of this country, by preparing an embassy, suited to the dignity of the Court of Great Britain, and fitted out in a manner to attract the attention of the Chinese people, as well as to command the respect, and secure the regard of the Court of Pekin.

The Honourable Colonel Cathcart was, accordingly, invested, in the year 1788, with the important character of minister from this country to the Empire of China; a man whose superior talents, amiable manners, shrewd sagacity and active perseverance qualified him, in a pre-eminent degree, to forward the important objects of his mission: but
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the premature death of that able, excellent, and accomplished man, which happened on his voyage, thwarted the progress of the embassy he was appointed to conduct; and as no person had been named in the King's commission, to succeed to his diplomatic office, if he should not reach the place of his destination, that embassy died with him; and may be said to have been buried on the distant shore where his ashes repose.

The wise attentions of government were not, however, to be turned aside from such an important, national object as a commercial alliance between the Courts of London and Peking: the character of Ambassador to China was accordingly revived, with additional splendor, in the person of Earl Macartney; and an embassy was re-appointed in such a manner as became the empire it was to represent—and the empire before which it was to appear.

It is impossible to speak in higher terms of the anxious care and liberal attention of government to this diplomatic mission than it deserves. The superior talents which direct the board of controul, and the commercial spirit which animates the direction of the East India Company, combined to form those arrangements which certainly deserved success, if they did not obtain it. No narrow, or sordid views, mingled with the preparations of it: the means of exterior figure, and the allurements of
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manufactures that are imported into this country, to decorate the apartments of elegant opulence: but my principal object is to give a strong and accurate out-line of the picture; and I would rather be accused of the dulness and tautology of truth, than risque a suspicion that I had sacrificed to a creative imagination. Indeed, in a journey, or a voyage, or by whatever name it may be distinguished, of upwards of two thousand miles, some repetition must be expected and forgiven, not only from a similitude of objects, but from the impossibility of displaying, by literal description, those differences between them, which, though evident to the eye, cannot be transferred to the page. Cities, towns and villages, mountains and rocks, rivers, canals and lakes, &c. &c. will oftentimes admit of nothing more than general denominations. The regularity, also, with which the British embassy was conducted in its progress through China, will give an occasional uniformity to the narration, that may sometimes check the interest which, I trust, it will be generally found to excite: but I beg leave to assure the reader that, if unfortunately he should not be always amused by this work, he will never be intentionally deceived; and the merit of faithful representation is all I have to claim, and all I wish to receive.

I have preceded the history of the journey through China with an account of the voyage to it; and have consequently mentioned places which have already been
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described

described by others, and are to be found in the volumes of modern geography ; but I was advised by those, on whose judgment I could very much rely, to give this introductory part of it, according to my own knowledge, and from the result of my own observation.

I have also added the journal of the Lion and the Hindostan from Chusan to Canton, as it contains much curious and useful information relative to the navigation of a long range of the coasts of China not generally known, and may be, therefore, important to the future voyager of the seas that wash them. The river of Canton is so well known, that I have compressed my account of it into a very small compass. The homeward-bound voyage, also, which was accompanied with no circumstance worthy of particular attention, is contained in a few pages. To these I have added a short glossary of such Chinese words and expressions, as I had myself acquired, and no more.

As to the names of cities, villages, &c. I have given the orthography according to their sounds, and as I was instructed by those natives, whose knowledge of the English language was sufficient to assist me.

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I shall offer no apology to my country for publishing the journal of a voyage, which had excited such universal attention. If this volume contains a faithful narrative of the public transactions of the late embassy to China, with such an account of the country and its inhabitants, as the circumstances of it, and mode of travelling through it, would allow ; an apology must be considered as insulting the public, to whom the work is presented : and, if it should be found to contain nothing that can interest or amuse the public, the book itself will be an insult, and beyond the reach of apology.

But I indulge myself in better expectations ; nor am I without a flattering hope, that this volume contains information which will gratify reasonable curiosity, and enlarge the knowledge of a country so little known to the other nations of the globe.

*Westminster, Marsham-street,
April 2, 1795.*

Messrs. Jack

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List of the Officers on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion.

Mr. Atkins, 3d. ditto ;
Mr. Cox, 4th. ditto——died at Chusan ;
Mr. Ommaney, acting Lieutenant ;
Mr. Jackson, Master of the Lion ;
Mr. Saunders, Master's-mate ;
Mr. Tippet, ditto ;
Mr. Simes, ditto (dismissed from the ship at Batavia) ;
Mr. Lowe, ditto ;
Mr. Roper, ditto ;
Mr. Warren, ditto (son of Dr. Warren, Physician to his Majesty,
and the Prince of Wales), promoted to be acting Lieutenant ;
Mr. Kent ;
Mr. Chapman, (appointed Gunner, vice Corke, deceased).

Midshipmen.

Right Hon. Lord Mark Kerr, (son of the Marquis Lothian), promoted to be acting Lieutenant ;
Hon. Wm. Stuart, (son of the Earl Bute) ;
Mr. Bromely,
Mr. Swinbourne,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Dilkes,
Mr. Trollope,
Mr. Heywood,
Mr. Hickey,
Mr. Thompson,
Mr. Waller, (died at Wampoa) ;
Mr. Beaumont, (returned home from Angara Point, for the recovery of his health) ;
Mr. Snipe,
Mr. Wools,
Mr. Montague,
Mr. Chambers,
Mr. Scott,
Mr. Bridgeman,

Mr.

List of the Officers on Board his Majesty's Ship Lion.

Mr. Perkins,
Mr. Sarradine.

Mr. Tothill, Purser, (died at Cochin China);
Mr. West, Captain's Clerk;
Mr. Nutt, Surgeon;
Mr. Anderson, Chief-mate;
Mr. Cooper, 2d. ditto;
Mr. Thomas, 3d. ditto;
Mr. Humphries, Schoolmaster.

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Wednesday,
Sunday 30.

October 10.

A leak was repaired that had sprung in the side of the Lion.

We made land at an early hour of this morning ; and at eight saw the Deserter's Island at the distance of about four leagues ; and the island of Porto Santo at the distance of about three leagues. These islands are subject to the crown of Portugal, and form a part of the Madeiras : the latter of them is chiefly appropriated as a place of exile for those who commit any petty depredations on the island of Madeira. It is about fifteen miles in circumference, and very mountainous : it contains no harbours ; but has a large bay wherein ships may be tolerably secure, except when the wind blows from the south-west ; and is frequented by Indiamen outward and homeward bound. The island produces corn, but in no great quantity ; it has also pasturage for cattle ; and its thickets furnish shelter for wild boars. The inhabitants, who are few in number, are subject to the government of Madeira. The Desart, or Deserter's Island, is an inconsiderable barren rock, and serves also as a prison for criminals, who are there obliged to pay the penance of their offences by various kinds of labour.

Thursday 11.

We arrived in Funchal Bay, in the island of Madeira, and anchored in forty-four fathom water ; the town of Funchal being to the N. N. E. about a mile.

Friday 12.

After breakfast, Lieutenant Campbell was sent on shore to the governor of the Madeiras, to notify the arrival of Lord Macartney ; and, on the return of that officer, the Lion saluted the garrison with thirteen guns, which was immediately returned. The British Consul then came on board, attended by several English gentlemen, among whom were the most respectable merchants of the place, to pay their respects to the Ambassador, and to invite him ashore.

His Lordship having accepted of the invitation, the ship's company were ordered to get themselves clean dressed in white jackets and trowsers as preparatory for manning the yards : and, as I publish this Narrative, not merely for the use of seamen, but for the entertainment,

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of the rock, and

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a mile from the shore, and in water of near forty fathom, so that there can be no communication with the land but by means of boats. The landing-place of the island is to the north-west of the Loo rock, and from the depth of the sea, which, at the water's edge, is fifteen fathom, the violence of the surf and the rocky shore, is extremely dangerous. Steps are formed in the rock to ascend to the top of it, which communicate with the road to Funchal, the principal town of the island.

This road is very rough and narrow, being no more than four feet and an half in breadth, with a low wall on either side. It first leads to an high ascent, on each side of which are a few unenviable dwellings of the lower class of inhabitants. On the succeeding declivity is a small church, in the front of which there is an altar and a cross, which is supposed to possess some healing powers of peculiar efficacy, as we saw several poor wretches afflicted with various diseases, lying naked there, and exposing their bodies covered with sores and blotches. The church has so little the appearance of any thing like a place dedicated to the worship of God, that, till I perceived the cross, which was its distinguishing decoration, it appeared to me to be a barn or stable; at the same time I was informed, that the inside of it was very properly fitted up and furnished for the sacred purpose to which it was dedicated. Its situation is beautiful beyond description: it stands in a very elevated position, commands a very grand and extensive view of the sea, with Porto Santo and the Deserter's Island; overlooking, at the same time, the charming vineyards in its own immediate vicinity. Many delightful gardens are seen on either side of the road, abounding in delicious fruits; and, on the northern side of it, the vineyards stretch away to the extremity of the rock, which possesses a perpendicular height of several hundred feet above the sea.

About half a mile beyond the church is the entrance to the town of Funchal, through a gate, from whence a mean, dirty, narrow street leads to a public walk disposed in the form of a garden, which has a principal

principal alley or avenue in the center, with orange and other trees on either side of it, and lamps placed between them: the whole is terminated by the cathedral church, a large Gothic building, which is fitted up in a very suitable manner for the purposes of that religion to which it is consecrated.

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October.

I went after breakfast to the house of the British Consul, which is in the neighbourhood of the cathedral; and saw Lord Macartney, attended by his whole suite, among whom was the Hon. Mr. West, brother to the Earl of De Lawarr, dressed in the uniform of the embassy, walk in procession to visit the Governor of the island; who received the Ambassador with every mark of attention and respect, and requested his company to dinner on the succeeding day. His Lordship then returned to the Consul's in the same order and formality.

Monday 15.

As in the afternoon of this day I completed my view of this place, I shall here finish my account of it.

Madeira is extremely mountainous, and presents a most beautiful object from the bay. It lies between thirty-two and thirty-three degrees of north latitude, and between eighteen and nineteen degrees of west longitude from London. Its length is seventy-five miles, and its breadth thirty. In the center of the southern side of the island, at a small distance from the sea, and on the first rise of an amphitheatre of hills, is the town of Funchal: its population is very considerable, and it contains several churches, as well as monasteries of both sexes, of the different orders of the church of Rome: the houses are built of stone, and the greater part of them are covered with white plaster, and generally roofed with tiles: the streets are very narrow, ill paved, and dirty, having no foot-path for passengers, with all the inconvenience arising from unequal ground and continual declivity. Except the residence of the Governor, and of the British Consul, and the houses of some principal merchants, glass is an article of very rare use: the houses are in general about three stories high, with lattice windows, and balconies in the front, where the female inhabitants are continually seen to amuse themselves in observing

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October.

ing what happens in the streets, or conversing with those who are passing along. There are neither courts, squares, or principal streets in this town; the whole place composing a scene of architectural deformity. The custom-house, which is on the sea side, is surrounded by a rampart mounted with cannon, and contains barracks for soldiers.

The town is about three miles in length, and one in breadth. Its inhabitants consist of Portuguese, mulattoes, negroes, and a few English, who reside there for the purposes of commerce. The wine of this island, so well known for its cordial and peculiar qualities, is the great object of its trade, and the principal source of its riches. The dress of the poorer sort of people is a kind of cap, made of cloth, which they wear instead of an hat, a short jacket, and clumsy trousers, with a kind of boots of coarse undressed leather; though many of the lower class are seen almost naked, and manifest no common appearance of distress and misery. The religion is catholic, and the clergy possess the same power as in the mother country. The natives are of a very courteous disposition, and treat strangers with all the punctilio of respect and politeness.

No carriages are kept in this island, but by the Governor and the British Consul: the substitute for them, among the higher order of the inhabitants, is a very fine silk net, of various colours, capable of containing a person to sit in it: it is borne by two men, by means of a long pole run through the four corners, which draws the net close on each side like a purse; a silk curtain is then thrown over the pole, that entirely obscures the person who sits in this curious vehicle, which is the elegant mode of conveyance in visits of ceremony, and to the occasional entertainments of the place. These, however, are always in private houses, as there are no theatres, or any places of public entertainment, except the public garden, where there are frequent exhibitions of the most brilliant fire-works.

There are very few horses in this island; mules and oxen being principally employed both for draught and burden: nor is it easy to

conceive the sagacity and agility of these animals in adapting their powers to the inequalities of this very mountainous country.

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October.

The military establishment of the Madeiras is very limited, and does not consist of more than three hundred men. The native militia, however, are numerous, but they are never embodied, except in time of danger and alarm. These soldiers are most wretchedly clothed; the regimental consisting of a very coarse blue jacket, with a vest and breeches of the same colour; the whole bound with a coarse yellow worsted lace, and enlivened with red facing. They wear on their heads a kind of leathern helmet; but the artillery soldiers are distinguished by hats: their arms and accoutrements are of the worst kind, and kept in the worst order: in short, such was their appearance, that when some of our matrosses and light horsemen were permitted to go on shore, the inhabitants, from the superiority of their appearance, could not be persuaded but that they were all officers in the British service.

The town is defended towards the sea, from east to west, by a strong wall, mounted with cannon, and a fort at either end. The climate of Madeira is well known for its salubrious influence, as, excepting the month of January, when there are frequent rains, accompanied with violent thunder, it seldom undergoes any change of season. Those who have money may purchase here, as in other places, all the luxuries of life; but they in general bear a very extravagant price, though the first people live in a stile of great plenty and elegance. Even the wine, which, as it is the produce of the spot, might naturally be supposed to be purchased at a reasonable rate, could not be obtained by us for less than four shillings a bottle. This island, however, notwithstanding its mountainous state, must be considered, altogether, as a very fertile colony; and, as a picturesque object, nothing can exceed the romantic and beautiful views it contains, and the delightful spots that are covered with gardens and vineyards.

Lord

1792.
 Tuesday,
 October 16.

Lord Macartney, with the principal people of the island, were very handsomely entertained by the British Consul, at dinner; and, in the evening, Mr. Scot, an English merchant, gave a ball and supper, in honour of his Lordship, which wanted nothing, in point of elegant hospitality, that our country can afford. The English servants also partook of the attention paid to their Lord, and were entertained with the greatest plenty, and in the most agreeable manner, beneath the same roof.

Wednes-
 day 17.

We, this morning, paid a visit to a convent of ladies, about three miles to the east of Funchal. It is a very handsome building, situated near the summit of an hill, and in the midst of vineyards, commanding a most beautiful, various, and extensive prospect; comprehending the adjacent country covered with gardens, the town of Funchal, and an expansive view of the ocean.—Here the nuns are permitted to converse very freely with strangers, whom they compliment with toys, and other articles of their own manufacture. I saw among them several very pretty women; who, as far as I could judge by their manners, seemed to regret the loss of that society for which they were formed, and to sigh after a communication with the world, which they were qualified to adorn.

Having taken a particular view of this charming spot, we proceeded to the country residence of the Governor, where Lord Macartney and his suite had been invited to dinner. This entertainment consisted of three very splendid courses of fifty dishes; and at a certain part of it, Lord Macartney proposed to drink the health of the King and the Royal Family of England; which, being notified by a signal, the Lion, at that instant, fired a royal salute of twenty-one guns; and was immediately answered by the same number of guns from the fort. The Governor then observed the same ceremony respecting the Royal Family of Portugal, which was followed by the same salutes from the Portuguese battery and English man of war. A very fine display of fire-works concluded the entertainment, which was

was equally to the honour of the distinguished persons who gave and received it.

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October.

We returned on board, where we found several friars, whose curiosity had led them to take a view of the ship; where they were received with that kindness and hospitality as to call forth the most grateful expressions; and to obtain from them, all they had to give, their repeated benedictions. Thursday 18.

The entire forenoon of this day was employed in making preparations for a breakfast in the ward-room, to which Lord Macartney had invited the Governor of the island, the British Consul, and the principal inhabitants. This entertainment consisted of tea, coffee, and chocolate; cold meats of all kinds, with fruits, jellies, and variety of wines: the whole being decorated with ornamental confectionary. About noon Lord Macartney returned on board the Lion, with the usual formalities; and was soon followed by the Governor, with his attendants, in very elegant barges. The bishop of Funchal accompanied him on the occasion. The British Consul arrived soon after them. The company then partook of the repast, during which the healths of the royal families of England and Portugal were drank with becoming ceremony; and, having taken a view of the ship, they returned on shore. In the evening we weighed anchor, and quitted Madeira.

At five in the afternoon we saw the extreme points of Teneriffe; at midnight we saw the east point of that island; and, early in the morning, stood in for land. Saturday 20.

We anchored in twenty-two fathom water in Santa Cruz bay; where we found a French frigate, who had called here on her homeward bound passage from the West Indies; but, in consequence of the revolution in France, she was detained till the pleasure of his Catholic Majesty should be known, respecting the part he intended to take with the confederated powers, then at war with the national assembly. Sunday 21.

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disadvantages that arise from the proverbial pride and indolence of their character: for, notwithstanding the abundant fertility of this island, which yields the greatest plenty to the smallest exertions, the general appearance of the people most evidently betray their poverty and wretchedness. There is another fort to the west of Santa Cruz, on a very elevated point, which appears to be built with great strength, and commands a part of the bay.

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October.

The climate of this island is warm, and, like that of Madeira, not subject to change. During our stay here, the thermometer stood in the shade, from seventy to eighty degrees, varying a little, on board the ship. The Governor resides chiefly at the island distinguished by the name of the Grand Canary, about twelve or fifteen leagues distant from Teneriffe.

Sir George and Mr. Staunton, with the Doctors Gillan, Dinwiddie, and Not, Messieurs Maxwell, Barrow, and Alexander, together with Colonel Benson, having formed a plan to visit the peak; they set out at eight o'clock in the morning of this day, from the hotel at Santa Cruz, with every proper aid and provision to carry the design into execution. The thermometer then stood at seventy-seven degrees. They proceeded on mules, and under the direction of guides hired for the purpose, with little or no interruption, till they had advanced about eight miles up the mountain, when the air became so cold, that every one was glad to make some addition to his cloathing; at the same time the thermometer had fallen upwards of twenty degrees. Here the party added some very necessary refreshment to the change in their dress, and then proceeded on their journey till they arrived at the foot of the peak, which was entirely covered with snow, six feet in depth: but difficulties every moment occurred to impede their progress; Sir George Staunton had been thrown from his mule at a moment of great danger; the animal on which Doctor Gillan rode, had fallen with him, and it was at length determined, from the awful appearance of the journey before them, the exhausted condition of the party, and the late hour of the evening, to pass the night

Wednes-
day 24.

1792.

October.

on the mountain. A kind of rude pavilion, therefore, was formed by a sail, which, being lined with cloaks, and great coats, soon produced a comfortable apartment. A fire was then kindled near the tent; and after taking an hasty supper, every one laid himself down to repose.

Thursday 25.

At six o'clock in the morning, the arduous journey was renewed; the thermometer being at that time considerably below the freezing point—which, after infinite fatigue and considerable hazard, proved fruitless as to its principal object; and about three o'clock in the afternoon, the different gentlemen of the party, who had taken different ways to ascend the peak, were, at length, happily re-assembled at the place where the mules had been stationed. It was, however, necessary, as the distance from Santa Cruz was at least eleven or twelve miles, to pass the night of this day, as we had passed the preceding one; and, on the following morning, the party returned to Santa Cruz, after a most fatiguing expedition of two days and two nights, in which curiosity, at least, had received considerable gratification.

The peak of Tencriffe is one of the highest mountains in the world, and may be seen at the distance of an hundred miles. It rises in the center of the island, and takes its ascent from Santa Cruz and Oratavia, another principal town of this island, in an oblique direction for near twenty miles; being surrounded by a great number of inferior mountains. The lower parts towards Santa Cruz, are covered with woods and vineyards; its middle is clad in snow, and the top disembogues flames from a volcano, which the natives call the Devil's Cauldron. In travelling to the peak, the best way is on the side of Oratavia, both as to the convenience of ascent, and the consequent diminution of danger. In some parts of the mountain there are hot, burning sands; in other places there is snow; and to that succeeds a strong sulphurous vapour. Though the top of the peak, from its great height, appears to finish in a point, it contains a flat surface of at least an acre of ground. We experienced three distinct changes of climate in the course of our journey. In the first stage of it the air is

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warm, to that succeeds intense cold, which is followed by a volcanic heat. The bottom is continual fertility, the middle is snow and frost, and the top is smoke and flames; giving the successive effects of a garden, an ice-house, and a furnace.

1792:
October.

Soon after our return to Santa Cruz, a signal was given for our going on board, which was obeyed with all possible expedition. On our return to the ship, we found several young ladies, inhabitants of the island, who, having been educated in England, were naturally induced to visit a ship belonging to a country to which they apparently owed the sincerest acknowledgements. They were received with the greatest politeness by Lord Macartney; and the band of music was ordered to play during the whole of their very agreeable visit.

Friday 26.

The French frigate, which we have already mentioned as detained here, was, this day, released from its embargo, and set sail from the island.

About eleven o'clock at night the wind blew a very fresh gale, and the Indostan drifted so fast towards the shore, that it was thought prudent to let go her sheet anchor. But this precaution was not sufficient to prevent the danger from becoming so imminent, that Captain Mackintosh fired a gun for assistance from the Lion; when Sir Erasmus Gower immediately ordered off three boats, by whose exertions the Indostan was disengaged from her unpleasant situation, when she put to sea; after having lost her anchors, from the rubbing of the cables against the rocky bottom.

At one in the morning we weighed anchor, and took our leave of Santa Cruz. Saturday 27.

At three in the afternoon we saw Mayo, one of the Cape de Verd islands, bearing W. S. W. at the distance of four or five leagues. Hove too, and hoisted out the launch. At seven, we spoke to a ship from

November.
Friday 28.

^{1792.}
November. from Topsham, in Devonshire, which had been out thirty-two days. At eight in the evening, the town of Saint Jago, a town of the island of that name, bore north, half west, seven miles; and, at three quarters after eleven, we came too in Port Praya bay. The thermometer at noon stood at 82 degrees.

Saturday 3. After the usual salutes, several boats were employed in watering. The Seine was also hauled, and fresh fish served to the ship's company.

Monday 5. Lord Macartney went on shore in a private manner; and, after a short stay, returned to the Lion.

Tuesday 6. This day arrived three French and one American South-sea whale fishermen.—A canoe came along-side the Lion, with grapes, coconuts, and other fruits, for sale. This is the only kind of boat used in these islands, and nothing could exceed, in the exterior appearances of wretchedness, the owner of it. The thermometer stood, this day, on shore, at 90.

Wednesday 7. Several of the men belonging to the corps of artillery went on shore to wash and dry their linen; when they returned extremely scorched, and their legs covered with blotches, from standing in the burning sands. Having given my linen to be washed by a man of Praya, and having reason to apprehend, that I might share the fate of others, who had not found the natives of the country perfectly correct in their returns, I went in quest of my washerman, and was obliged to be content, not only with paying an exorbitant price for what he had done very ill, but with the loss of several articles which he could not be persuaded to restore. I, however, took this opportunity of viewing the town of Praya; in which there is very little to excite curiosity, or encourage description.

Saint Jago is the largest of the Cape de Verd islands, which lie between twenty-three and twenty-six degrees of west longitude, and between

tween fourteen and eighteen north latitude. It is very mountainous, and has much barren land on it; nevertheless, it is the most fruitful and best inhabited of them all—and is the residence of the Viceroy, or Governor.

1792.
November.

Praya is situated on the east side of the island, and is built on the top of a flat hill, about an hundred yards above the surface of the bay; having a miserable fort on the western side, which, however, such as it is, commands the entrance into it. The only landing place is opposite the Governor's house, which is situated in a considerable valley, formed by two large mountains. A very rugged and ascending path, of about a quarter of a mile, and taking an easterly direction, leads to an arched gate-way, which forms the entrance to the town; a mean and miserable place, consisting of nothing more than one wide street, about half a mile in length, formed of low houses, built of stone and mud, and covered with trees; and, except two, reach not beyond the first story. The furniture of such as we could look into, was perfectly suited to the exterior appearance; consisting of nothing more than planks, which answered the double purpose of seats and tables, while the beds were as humble as solitary straw could make them. There is but one shop, and one public house in the town; and the former is as deficient in point of commodities, as the other is incapable of convenient accommodation. The church, and the governor's house partake of the general appearance of the place. The natives are all negroes, who speak the Portuguese language, with an intermixture of exiles, banished from the Brazils and the Madeiras for capital offences. There is one convent in the island, and the whole is subject to the spiritual jurisdiction of a Popish bishop.

There appears to be great plenty of goats here, but the scorching heat of the climate, and the consequent scarcity of every kind of herbage, is not calculated to give them a very thriving appearance.

Praya

1792.
November,

Praya has a good port, and is seldom without ships; those outward bound to Guinea or the East-Indies, from England, Holland, and France, frequently touching here for water and refreshments.

While we were rambling about this miserable place, we heard the signal to repair on board, and, hastening to the shore, found a boat waiting to receive us, and a crowd of the naked inhabitants standing there with their fruits for sale.—At noon we left Port Praya.

Sunday 18.

At eleven o'clock in the forenoon, we found ourselves under the Equator, where the burlesque and ridiculous ceremonies frequently allowed by the commanding officers of ships were completely observed, by permission of Sir Erasmus Gower, to the great entertainment of the ship's company.

December,
Saturday 1.

At five o'clock in the afternoon, we came to anchor in the Rio Janeiro harbour, in fifteen fathom water. Passed by this afternoon into the harbour the Hero of London, a South-sea whaler, from the South-seas, bound for London. A great many ships were at this time at anchor in the river, and, among the rest, was a Portuguese East-Indiaman homeward bound; by whom it was intended to have sent letters to England, by way of Lisbon, had not the arrival of the Hero afforded a more ready, as well as more secure conveyance.

The country offers from the river a most delightful prospect, consisting of a fine range of hills covered with wood, whose intervening vallies are adorned with stately villas, affording at once a scene of elegance, richness, and beauty.

Sunday 2.

The cutter was hoisted out, and the first lieutenant dispatched on shore, to acquaint the Viceroy with the arrival of the Ambassador, and to demand the salute; but, as that officer was at his country residence, the usual formalities were necessarily suspended.

In

In the morning of this day, the deputy viceroy came, accompanied with guards and attendants, in elegant barges, to wait on Lord Macartney, to know his intentions, and to acquaint him with the regulations to which all foreigners must submit on landing at Rio Janeiro. But, his Lordship having been for some time afflicted with the gout, and still remaining very much indisposed, Sir George Staunton and Sir Erasmus Gower received the deputy viceroy, who, after an introductory conference, partook of a cold collation, and returned on shore.

1792.
December.
Monday 3.

The deputy viceroy, with his attendants, paid a second visit to the ship, and accompanied the general message of congratulation from the Viceroy to the Ambassador, on his arrival at the Brazils, with an invitation to accept of an house for his residence, during the time he might find it necessary to stay there. This obliging proposition was accepted by Lord Macartney; and Sir George Staunton went on shore to make the necessary preparations for his reception, as soon as he should be sufficiently recovered to quit the ship. Tuesday 4.

The Viceroy's secretary, attended by several gentlemen, came on board the Lion to inquire when the Ambassador would come on shore; who was pleased to appoint the following day at one o'clock, to make his entrance into the city of Rio Janeiro. Thursday 6.

At noon, Sir Erasmus Gower having been on shore to notify to the Viceroy that Lord Macartney was ready to land, he returned to the Lion in order to conduct him; and they soon arrived with all the ceremonials suited to the occasion. The landing-place, which is immediately opposite to the Viceroy's palace, was lined on each side by a regiment of horse, and the Viceroy's body-guards. The Viceroy himself was also there with his official attendants, and he most distinguished persons of the city, to receive the Ambassador, who was conducted along the line, and distinguished by every military honour. The ceremony had altogether a very grand appearance, and a prodigious Friday 7.

1792.
December.

prodigious crowd of people had assembled to be spectators of it. They then proceeded to the palace of the Viceroy, and passed through a large hall lined with soldiers under arms, and enlivened by the sound of martial music, to the state apartments. Here the company remained for some time, when Lord Macartney and Sir George Staunton were conducted to the Viceroy's state coach; Sir Erasmus Gower and Capt. Mackintosh were placed in a second; and the whole British suite being accommodated with carriages, the cavalcade set off, escorted by a troop of light cavalry, to the house appointed for Lord Macartney's reception, which is about two miles from the city: the Ambassador receiving, as he passed, every honour due to the high character with which he was invested. A captain's guard, appointed by the Viceroy, was also drawn up in the front of the house, who received the British visitors with colours flying and music playing, and every military distinction. Thus concluded the ceremony of the Ambassador's reception at Rio Janeiro.

It would not only be tedious, but altogether unnecessary, to mention the common daily occurrences during our stay at the Brazils; I shall, therefore, confine myself altogether to such circumstances, as from their novelty and importance may interest the mind, and reward, in some degree, the attention, of the reader.

Monday 10.

Lord Macartney, with his whole suite, paid a visit of ceremony to the Viceroy, and was received with every mark of attention and respect. The gentlemen who attended on the occasion, afterwards dined with his Lordship; and, in the evening, visited the public garden of the place: this garden is about half a mile in length, and half that space in breadth; it is surrounded by a strong high wall, and guarded at the entrance by a party of soldiers. The interior disposition consists of large grass-plots and gravel walks, agreeably shaded with trees, and perfumed with flowers. In the center is a large basin of water, and a great number of lamps are placed between the trees, on each side of the walks, for the purpose of illumination. At one end

of

of the garden is a large building for balls and music; but, as the season of amusement at this place was passed when we were there, we must be content with giving a description of the spot, without speaking of the diversions to which, at certain seasons of the year, it is applied, as we doubt not, to the recreation of the inhabitants.

1792.
December.

All possible preparation was made in the long gallery and great room of Lord Macartney's house to receive the Viceroy, who had given notice of his intention to return the Ambassador's visit in the morning of this day. At ten o'clock, Sir Erasmus Gower, with the officers from the Lion, dressed in their best uniforms, as well as Capt. Mackintosh, with the officers of the Hindostan, came on shore to attend the ceremony. Tuesday 11.

At eleven, the Viceroy's departure from his palace was announced by a discharge of artillery from the garrison; when the guard, appointed by the Viceroy to attend the British Ambassador, immediately paraded in front of the house; and, in about half an hour, the Viceroy arrived in grand procession, preceded and followed by a squadron of horse, and attended by all the principal officers and persons of distinction in the city. His Excellency was received at the door of the house by Lord Macartney, and conducted to a sofa at the upper end of the best apartment. Sir George Staunton then presented all the gentlemen attached to the embassy, according to their respective rank, to the Viceroy; who, after partaking of a very elegant repast prepared for him and his company, returned in the same form, and with the same ceremonies, as distinguished his arrival.

The dress of the Viceroy was scarlet cloth, very much enriched with gold, embroidery, and precious stones; his attendants wore a splendid livery of green and gold, and he had several black running footmen, who were dressed in fancy uniforms, with large turbans on their heads, and long sabres by their sides.

1792.
December.
Wednes-
day 12.

This morning, at an early hour, Sir George and Mr. Staunton, accompanied by Mr. Barrow and a Portuguese gentleman, set off on a short excursion into the country. At the same time, I took an opportunity of visiting the place, of which I shall now proceed to give such a description, as my capacity for observation will enable me.

This city, which is by some called Saint Sebastian, and by others, Rio Janeiro, stands on the west side of the harbour of the latter name, in a low situation, and almost surrounded by hills, which, by retarding the circulation of the air, renders the place very unsalutary to European constitutions. Its extent is very considerable, being from east to west about four miles in length, and from north to south about two miles in breadth. The streets, for there are no squares, are very regular and uniform, intersecting each other at right angles: they are well paved, abound in shops of every kind, and are composed of houses equally well built, and adapted to the climate. In the center of the city, and opposite to the beach, stands the palace of the Viceroy: it is a large, long, and narrow building, without any attraction from its exterior appearance, but contains within a succession of spacious and noble apartments. It consists only of two stories; the lower one being appropriated to the domestics and menial officers, and the upper range of building containing the apartments of the Viceroy: it is built of rough stone, plaistered with lime, and covered with pantiles. The Viceroy's chapel is a neat edifice, near the palace, but detached from it. The streets are not only spacious and convenient, but remarkable for their cleanliness; many of them containing ranges of shops and warehouses that would do credit to the cities of Europe. There is a custom here, which appears to be worthy of imitation in all places of considerable trade and commerce, that all persons of the same profession occupy the same street or district; and a deviation from this rule is very rarely known in this city. Of the population of this place, I could not procure any accurate information, but from its extent, and the general observations I was enabled to make, it may, I think, be considered, without exaggeration, as amounting to two hundred

hundred thousand souls. The people, who are Roman Catholics, are very much attached to the ceremonials of their religion, which they observe with extreme superstition. The churches are very numerous, and fitted up with ostentatious finery. On the festivals of their patrons these edifices are richly adorned, and beautifully illuminated. Some of them, indeed, during our stay, were lighted up with so much splendor, as to offer a very striking spectacle, and to bear the appearance rather of a public rejoicing, than a partial act of parochial devotion. Near the middle of the city, and on a commanding eminence, there is a public observatory furnished with an astronomical apparatus.

1792.
December.

The inhabitants are very ostentatious in their dress; and every rank of people are in the habit of considering swords as essential to their public appearance; even children are not considered as exempt from this ornamental weapon. The dress of the ladies bears a near resemblance to that of European women, except in the decoration of the head. Their hair is smoothed back in the front, and adorned with artificial flowers, beads, and feathers, fantastically arranged; behind, it falls down in a variety of plaited tresses, intermixed with ribbons of various colours, each tress terminating in a rose made of ribbon. They also wear a large mantle of silk, hanging loosely behind in the form of a train, which is borne by one servant, while another holds an umbrella to shade the face of his mistress from the sun. The females of Brazil are generally of a pale complexion, but have a certain delicacy of feature which renders them very pleasing objects; and the affability of their manners heightens the agreeableness of their personal attractions.

The trade of this place is very considerable, and the source of great wealth to the inhabitants, as well as to the mother country. The various articles which are exported from hence, are the same as those produced in other parts of the Portuguese settlements in Brazil. The wharfs are very large and peculiarly commodious; and we were
very

1792.
December.

very much amused on observing the dexterity with which the slaves loaded and unloaded the barges that lay along side them. The rice, of which great quantities appeared to be exported from this settlement, was all contained in undressed bullock's hides.

At a small distance from the city, on the west side of it, is a large convent, but more remarkable for strength than elegance. It is built round several quadrangular courts, paved with large flat stones, surrounded by piazzas, and kept in a state of perfect cleanliness. It is divided into two parts, each containing a great number of apartments, each part being respectively appropriated to a religious community of either sex.

The persons who composed Lord Macartney's suite were indulged with the permission to visit this convent, and the nuns took opportunities to throw out to them a variety of little elegant toys of their own fabric. Nor had even their confined and devoted situation prevented them from knowing the art of manufacturing another kind of article, called *billets doux*, which they contrived to have conveyed to some of the English visitors. They even applied to Lord Macartney, by the director of the convent, for the use of his band of music, which accordingly performed at several morning concerts, within these sacred walls. There is also a very spacious garden, where the religious ladies are allowed to enjoy such recreation as they can find in a place, surrounded with walls of at least forty feet in height; which, as if they did not form a sufficient security, are constantly guarded on the outside by a party of soldiers.

On the north-west side of the town there is a stupendous aqueduct, which is an object of uncommon curiosity. It is in the form of a bridge, contains eighty arches, and in some parts is, at least, one hundred and fifty feet in height; and is seen, in some points of view, with peculiar effect, rising gradually above the loftiest buildings of the city. This immense chain of arches stretches across a valley, and unites the hills that form it. The object for which it was erected is completely answered, as it conveys water from perennial springs, at
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the distance of five miles, into the town, where, by means of leaden pipes, it is conducted to a large and elegant reservoir at the beach, opposite to the Viceroy's palace. This water is of the best quality, and is withal so very abundant, as not only to afford an adequate supply for all the wants of the inhabitants, but to furnish the ships that come into the harbour with this necessary element.

1792.

December.

The military establishment at Rio Janeiro is on a very respectable footing. The soldiers are not only well clothed and disciplined, but are allowed to enjoy all the privileges of citizens. It seems to be a policy of the Portuguese government, and a very wise one it is, to render the situation of the soldiery in their American settlements, not only comfortable in itself, and respectable in its character; but, in some degree, as I should imagine, the source of pecuniary advantage. Thus the loyalty and zeal of the soldiers are happily secured in a situation so important from its value, and where vigilance and fidelity in those who guard it become more necessary in proportion to its remoteness from the mother country. Whether it is that their pay is proportionably advanced in the service of these settlements, or that they are allowed any distinct advantages, I cannot tell, but they certainly appear to be in a state of comparative affluence, which no other soldiery that I have ever seen or heard of can be supposed to possess. The number of troops in Rio Janeiro, including cavalry and infantry, amount to twenty thousand men; and the militia are, at least, double that number. At the same time the place is admirably fortified, both by art and nature. It is situated about two miles from the mouth of the bay, and is defended by nine strong forts, well supplied with artillery, and sufficient garrisons. There are also two small islands in the middle of the bay, one at the entrance, called Santa Cruz Fort, and another at a small distance, which still add to the strength of the situation, and the difficulty of attacking it with advantage.

Sir George Staunton set off with a party on an excursion to the Sugar Loaf Hill, a very high rock situated on the left side of the entrance to the harbour; and at five o'clock in the afternoon, Lord Macartney,

Saturday 15.

1792.
December. ney, who was still very much indisposed, accompanied by Sir Erasmus Gower, returned, in a private manner, on board the Lion.

Sunday 16. All the baggage being put into carts to be carried to the beach, the officers who commanded the guard at the house where Lord Macartney had resided, ordered a party of soldiers to attend each cart, till the whole of their cargoes was deposited on board the boats which were in waiting to receive them. While I was attending on this duty, I had an opportunity of seeing the Viceroy return in great state from the church, where he had been to attend some particular ceremonial of his religion.

Monday 17. At half past ten in the morning we weighed anchor, and worked down to Santa Cruz Fort, and came too, soon after, in fifteen fathom water. The next day we soon ran out of the harbour, and took our leave of Rio Janeiro.

Nothing now occurred for some time, in the course of the voyage, which requires particular notice ; nor even that change of weather which would justify a circumstantial account of it. The weather was, in general, moderate ; light airs, fresh breezes, with occasional haziness and drizly rain, would include every description of it during the remainder of the year 1792. It may not, however, be thought altogether improper in me to mention, that, though so far removed from our friends and native clime, with such a waste of water around us, and so long a track of ocean before us, the festival of Christmas-day was not forgotten, and that its social distinctions were practised and enjoyed in the little world that bore us along.

Monday 31. About ten in the morning we saw the island of Tristan de Cunha. It is a barren, uninhabited, and almost inaccessible island, situated in the heart of the southern ocean, in thirty-seven deg. seven min. and thirty sec. south latitude, and about forty-five deg. east longitude. When we first observed this mountain rising above the clouds, it appeared to be

as

as high as the peak of Teneriff. It is a natural place of resort to prodigious numbers of wild birds; while the surrounding sea is the habitation of whales, sea-lions, and other monsters of the deep. Lieutenant Whitman, who was sent on shore in the cutter, to sound for anchorage, gave a very favourable report of the beach, as well as of a run of water which issued from a cliff, and, flowing across the shore, discharged itself into the sea.

1793.
January.

Mr. Whitman, on this occasion, shot a sea-lion and an albatross; the latter of which he brought on board. It measured nine feet from the bill to the extremity of the tail, but weighed no more than three pounds and an half.

In consequence of this information, Sir Erasmus Gower proposed to send a watering party on shore the next morning; while Sir George Staunton suggested an excursion thither at the same time, to see what this island offered to his observation in any branch of natural history: for this purpose, a certain number of artillery men were ordered to be in readiness by three o'clock in the morning, and to be properly equipped for the expedition against the amphibious monsters of the shore. At midnight, however, a very heavy gale came on, which caused the ship to start her anchor, and our situation became very alarming; for if the wind, which blew directly on the rock, had not changed, we must inevitably have perished. This unexpected alteration in the weather frustrated the designs which had been formed of obtaining further information relative to this curious place.

Tuesday 1.

The weather continued to be moderate, with light airs, and fresh breezes, till this day; when there came on an heavy gale of wind, which occasioned such a rolling of the ship, as to interfere with those enjoyments which make seamen forget the inconveniences of their situation.

Sunday 20.

The moderate weather returned, with all the comforts that usually attend it.

Tuesday 22.

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About

1793.
February.
Friday 1.

About four o'clock in the morning saw land, bearing E. N. E. supposed to be ten leagues distant; which, in about four hours, was discovered to be the island of Amsterdam, situate in the Indian ocean, and lying in latitude thirty deg. forty-three min. south, and seventy-seven deg. twenty min. east longitude. As we approached the island, we could plainly discover three men on the shore; in consequence of which the ensign was immediately hoisted. We here saw great numbers of water snakes, and a prodigious quantity of fish resembling cod, and weighing, in general, about three to eight pounds. At noon the yawl was hoisted out, and the master sent to sound for anchorage. In consequence of his information we hove too, and anchored with the best bower, in twenty-eight fathom water, on the east side of the island. The master also gave an account that there were five men on the island, who had come from the Isle de France, for the purpose of killing seals, with which this place abounds.

Wednesday 6.

Sir George and Mr. Staunton, with several other gentlemen, accompanied by a party of artillery soldiers, properly armed, went on shore, and made great destruction among the natives of the place: such as seals, penguins, albatrosses, &c. Great quantities of fish were also caught here, and salted, for the service of the ship.

On the north-east end of the island, nearly opposite to where the Lion lay at anchor, there is a very commodious basin, about a mile in diameter, and surrounded by inaccessible and perpendicular rocks; at the entrance of which, on the north-west corner, stands a lofty insulated rock, which bears the form of a sugar-loaf. This basin might, at a small expense, be made a place of safe retreat for ships of any burthen; as it contains, in many parts, thirteen fathom water, and possesses an excellent landing place. We here caught great quantities of fish which resemble our lobster, both in shape and size, but of a very superior flavour. We also observed great numbers of sharks all round the island; which is the more extraordinary, as the shark is seldom seen in these latitudes.

On our landing, we were met by the five seal-hunters, whom we have already mentioned; who, with great civility, conducted us to an hut at a small distance from the beach. They were natives of France and America, who had made a commercial engagement to come and reside in this island for the space of eighteen months, in order to kill seals, whose skins are sold to very great advantage to ships which touch at the isle of France. At this time they had only been six months in their present situation, when, according to their account, they had already killed eight thousand seals.

At a small distance from their hut, these men had, with much labour, and no small hazard, formed a path, by which they contrived to get over a mountain to kill seals on the other side of the island. On ascending this path, we came to a small spring, whose water is equal to boiling heat; and some fish which we put into it, were as perfectly dressed in six minutes, as if they had been cooked on board the ship. It should be also observed, that while we were attending to this process, we distinctly heard the same kind of bubbling sounds as proceeds from water boiling in a vessel over the fire. On the top of the mountain there is a volcano, from whence a substance issues, which these men represented as bearing the appearance, and possessing the qualities, of salt-petre.

This island is about eight miles in length, and six in breadth; in some parts it is altogether flat, particularly to the west, and gradually rises to the very high land in the center of it. It is a very barren spot, bearing neither tree nor shrub, and whose only produce is a kind of coarse, tufted grass, with very thick stalks. Every thing in this island bears the mark of having undergone the action of fire. The earth, and even the rocks and stones, on approaching the volcano, were so hot as to scorch our skin, to burn our shoes, and blister our feet. We were conducted about this desolate place by the five seal-hunters; whose care and kind attentions preserved us not only from inconvenience, but danger, which it would have been impossible for us to have avoided, if we had not been subject to their direction.

1798.

February.

The volcanic mountain is about three miles in its ascent, which is very steep and rugged; and in its ascent, as well as descent, attended with continual difficulties. In short, we had met with so many obstacles both in going up and coming down it, that two signal guns had been fired from the Lion, which, with the Hindostan, were both under weigh, when we reached the shore; where, after an interval of no common alarm and apprehension, we found a boat that conveyed us on board. The night being dark, we saw the flames of the volcano bursting forth in six different places, at a considerable distance from each other, which formed a grand and affecting spectacle.

It may here be proper to remark, that the thermometer, which, on board, stood at fifty-five degrees, rose on the island to seventy-four; and, towards the top of the mountain, to seventy-seven degrees and an half: a circumstance which must be attributed to the heat of the volcano.

Friday 15.

This morning, at three o'clock, a very large meteor, or fire-ball, rose from the north-north-west, and continued in view for some minutes, passing off, without any explosion, to the south-south-east. It threw a kind of blue light over the sails and decks; but the illumination was so strong, that the most trifling object could be distinguished.

Monday 18.

At eight o'clock in the morning discovered the Trial rocks, about a league to the windward; the sea beating over them to an immense height. These rocks are not visible, as they do not rise above the surface of the water, nor are they much beneath it. They are situated in the Indian ocean, in about one hundred and six degrees of east longitude, and twenty-five, or twenty-six degrees of south latitude.

Thursday 28.

In proceeding up the straits of Sunda, we saw the Hindostan lying at anchor, near the north island. In the afternoon a Dutch prow came along-side the Lion, laden with turtle, poultry, and fruit, for sale. The owner of the prow was a Dutchman; but those who rowed it were Malays, and some of them females.

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At three o'clock in the afternoon we came too in Batavia road, in five fathom water: the careening island bearing west-north-west. We were saluted by all the English ships in the road, and one French vessel. At sun-rise we saluted the Dutch garrison with thirteen guns, which were returned: at seven we returned the salutes of all the ships; and at eight received the members of the Dutch council with the same honours. Those gentlemen composed a deputation from the Governor-General of Batavia, to invite Lord Macartney on shore, and to know on what day and hour he would be pleased to land. His Lordship, accordingly, fixed on Friday, the 8th inst. at nine o'clock in the morning, that being the anniversary of the birth-day of his Serene Highness the Prince of Orange.

1793.
March.
Wednesday 6.

At six o'clock in the morning, a salute of twenty-one lower-deck guns was fired, in honour of his Serene Highness: and, at the time appointed, the Ambassador, attended by his whole suite, went on shore with the usual formalities.

Friday 8.

In a short time after Lord Macartney had quitted the ship, a Dutch officer of distinction, with several ladies and gentlemen, came on board the Lion, from Batavia, to take a view of her. They were received with all possible politeness by Lieutenant Campbell, and appeared to be much satisfied with their reception. A very fine young English lady was one of the party, and enhanced the honour of the visit.

In the afternoon I went on shore in the launch, having charge of the baggage belonging to the suite, which was, with some difficulty, rowed up the canal, and safely landed before the door of the royal Batavian hotel, where the packages were distributed in the apartments of the gentlemen to whom they respectively belonged. The Ambassador, with Sir George and Mr. Staunton, were received at the house of Mr. Wiggerman, one of the members of the supreme council.

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